REMARKS

Applicants request entry of the forgoing amendments, consideration of the following remarks and reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the office action mailed June 24, 2004. In that this Amendment and response is being submitted within three months of the mailing of said office action, no additional fees are required.

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Valoppi (US 5,700,843). Claim 1 has been cancelled and claims 2-4 amended to depend from and include all of the limitations of claim 5. Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 USC 102(b) should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by De Vos et al. (US 5,444,101). Claim 1 has been cancelled and claims 2-4 amended to depend from and include all of the limitations of claim 5. Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 USC 102(b) should be withdrawn.

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Valoppi '843 and De Vos et al. '101 as applied to 1-4 and further in view of Matijega (US 6,660,782). Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references fail to render obvious the present invention as set forth in amended claims 2-5.

The present invention is directed to the unexpected discovery that when preparing polyurethane foam using a gaseous co-blowing agent with mixing of the A and B sides, if the mixing pressure is above about 60 psig pressure and below about 1300 psig, the thermal conductivity and free rise density of the resulting foam was lower when the more typical 2000 psig mixing pressure is used. The present invention results in foam having more desirable properties. In Table I of the specification, this unexpected property is demonstrated. Applicants submit that, as noted by the Examiner, neither Valoppi '843 nor De Vos et al. '101 provide any teaching of a specific mixing pressure. Further, they fail to render obvious the advantages in foam properties to be gained by using the specific pressures of the present invention in place of other mixing pressures. Matijega '782 fails to remedy the deficiencies of Valoppi "843 or De Vos et al. '101. Matijega '782 fails to disclose any teaching that foam properties will be improved by the use of specific mixing pressures. It is submitted that Matijega '782 fails to provide any teaching that varying the mixing pressure will impact the foam properties. That is,

Matijega '782 does not disclose that improved foam properties can be achieved by using the specific mixing pressures claimed in the present invention. It is submitted that Matijega '782 does not teach any distinction between ambient, low or high pressure mixing pressure. It is submitted that the discovery that low pressure mixing would provide improvements in foam thermal conductivity and free rise density was surprising and unexpected.

Applicants submit that in view of the foregoing amendments and comments, claims 2-5 are in condition for allowance and prompt favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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